REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the careful review of this application. Claims 15-17, 19-20, 22-23, 25-26, 28-29, 31-32 and 34-35 were amended to clarify aspects of the present invention. Claim 1 was canceled without prejudice and claims 2-14 were previously canceled without prejudice. New claim 36 was introduced for consideration. No new matter was added. Therefore, claims 15-36 are currently pending in this application.

DOUBLE PATENTING

Claims 1 and 15-35 were rejected under obvious-type double-patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 and 12-32 of U.S. Patent No. 6,131,125. While Applicant respectfully traverses, this rejection is rendered moot by the cancellation of claim 1 and the enclosed terminal disclaimer. Withdrawal of the rejections of claims 15-35 is respectfully requested.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

Claims 15 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as failing to set forth the subject matter which Applicant regards is his invention. Specifically, the Examiner indicated that "said second protocol processor" lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 15 was amended such that "said second protocol processor" was changed to --a second protocol processor--. Regarding claim 24, "said second protocol processor" on lines 12 and 14 does not lack antecedent basis as "a second protocol processor" is listed at line 7. Withdrawal of the rejections of claims 15 and 24 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that all pending claims are allowable and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The amendment was made to expedite the prosecution of this application. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections of the amended claims and reserves the right to reintroduce them and claims of an equivalent scope in a continuation application.

If the Examiner believes that a conference would be of value in expediting the prosecution of this application, he is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned counsel at the number set out below.

Respectfully submitted, PERKINS COIE LLP

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